

Good Evening. Chairman Maynard, Chairman Guerrero and members of the Transportation Committee. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address the Committee this evening.

Re: HB 6037 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENSE TO CERTAIN IMMIGRANTS

My name is Tania Esquivel, I'm 29 years old. My parents migrated to this county in 1989 when I was only 5 yrs old and all they wanted was to provide a better life for my sister and I. But even though I have never once been back to Mexico and I've lived in here for ever 24 yrs. I'm still an illegal immigrant under the laws of this country. I got my 1st job at the age of 16 while I was still a sophomore in High School but over the years it has become a much harder struggle to obtain a job due to my status. In California I worked for a company as an administrative assistant and for 2 yrs the company did what they could to try and keep me with them because they liked how I worked and my dedication to my job but after a while there was only so much they could do and they had to let me go because I unable to provide them with a valid social security number or driver license and I went through that situation with 4 different employers. To me it is very frustrating to see those great opportunities being taken away from my hands, because I can't provide a proper Driver License to them. I was raised in California I've lived here my entire life and 5 yrs ago I relocated to Connecticut. This country is known as the "land of opportunities" but how are we to take advantage of those wonderful opportunities when this country won't give us the chance. So, please, I'm asking you to pass this proposal and give us all the opportunity at the "American Dream"

Thank you,

Tania Esquivel